

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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41

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 141346Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3061

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 6335

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, IS, EG

SUBJECT: ISRAELI ACTIONS IN THE GULF OF SUEZ

1. AS AGREED DURING THE MEETING BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER RABIN AND AMBASSADOR TOON SEPTEMBER 13, DATT AND ALUSNA MET SEPTEMBER 14 WITH THE IDF CHIEF OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, HIS DEPUTY, THE DNI AND THE HEAD OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE PRODUCTION. THE DNI PROVIDED US WITH A LARGE-SCALE CHART OF THE DISPUTED AREA WHICH HAS THE PERMANENT AND MOVABLE OIL FACILITIES PLOTTED TOGETHER WITH THE BOUNDARIES OF THE MORGAN, JULY AND RAMADAN OIL FIELDS. THE ISRAELI-CLAIMED MEDIAN LINE IS ALSO SHOWN. THE POSITIONS OF THE OIL FACILITIES WERE OBTAINED FROM OIL TRADE PUBLICATIONS AND GENERALLY VERIFIED BY VISUAL AND RADAR PLOTS.

2. WHEN QUERIED THE DNI STATED THAT THE ISRAELI NAVY WOULD NOT AND HAD NOT HARRASSED ANY EXISTING FACILITY. HOWEVER, THEY WOULD INTERCEPT WHAT THEY REGARD AS ANY "UNAUTHORIZED" MOVEMENT TO THE EAST OF THE MEDIAN LINE.

3. THE HEAD OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE PRODUCTION, CMDR. MOSHE BARNEA, HAS NOW BEEN IDENTIFIED TO US BY EVRON AS THE OFFICER WHO WILL ACCOMPANY HIM TO WASHINGTON TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS ON THURSDAY.

4. COMMENT: THE CHART, WHICH APPARENTLY WAS PRE-CONFIDENTIAL

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PARED OVERNIGHT FOR THE WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS, PROVIDES A CLEAR

PICTURE OF THE ISRAELI MEDIAN LINE CONCEPT AND OF OIL
FACILITIES IN THE GULF, AND WILL BE USEFUL TO US IN ANY
FUTURE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ISRAELIS. WE BELIEVE IT
WILL ALSO BE USEFUL IN THE WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS.
TOON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HARASSMENT, OFFSHORE OIL FIELDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TELAV06335
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760346-0784
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760961/aaaabzud.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAELI ACTIONS IN THE GULF OF SUEZ
TAGS: PINR, IS, EG, AMOCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006